INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

Intern. I Application No PCT/FR2004/003211

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER IPC 7 F17D5/00 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC B. FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) IPC 7 F17D Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Electronic data base consulted during the International search (name of data base and, where practical, search terms used) EPO-Internal C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Relevant to claim No. Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages US 6 243 657 B1 (ANDERSON DONALD WILLIAM 1-15 ET AL) 5 June 2001 (2001-06-05) the whole document us 6 553 322 B1 (IGNAGNI MARIO B) 22 April 2003 (2003-04-22) JEP 0 989 353 A (PIPELINE INTEGRITY INT LTD) 29 March 2000 (2000-03-29) CA 1 161 115 A (TRANS CANADA PIPELINES A LTD) 24 January 1984 (1984-01-24) Further documents are listed in the continuation of box C. Patent family members are listed in annex. Special categories of cited documents: "T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the "A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance invention "E" earlier document but published on or after the international *X* document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified) "Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art. document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means document published prior to the International filing date but later than the priority date claimed "&" document member of the same patent family Date of mailing of the international search report Date of the actual completion of the international search 1 April 2005 14/04/2005 Name and mailing address of the ISA Authorized officer European Patent Office, P.B. 5818 Patentlaan 2 NL - 2280 HV Rijsvijk Tel. (+31-70) 340-2040, Tx. 31 651 epp nl, Nicol, B Fax: (+31-70) 340-3316

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